GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2357
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2003
INSTALLATION OF SOLAR WATER HEATERS IN GUJARAT
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of solar water heaters installed in the State of Gujarat during the last two years ;

(b) the total amount earmarked for installation of solar water heaters during the current financial year in the State;

(c) whether the Government propose to educate the people about the installation of solar water heaters through intensive publicity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)

(a)&(b): Solar water heaters are currently being promoted by the Ministry through an interest subsidy scheme being implemented by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and seven public sector banks. The interest subsidy allotted for the programme during the current financial year is Rs. 7.5 crores. No funds are earmarked for any state. The approximate collector area installed for solar water heating in the state of Gujarat under the programme is 234 sqm. during 2000-01 and 661sqm. during 2001-02. In addition, under an incentive scheme of the Government of Gujarat for government and nonprofit organizations for installing solar water heaters, around 1700 sqm of collector area was installed during 2000-01. Manufacturers are also selling such systems directly to users without any incentive from Government.

(c)&(d) Several activities have been taken up to educate the people about the installation of solar water heaters. These include publishing of brochures and pamphlets, issuing advertisements in newspapers, sanctioning programmes for awareness creation, business development, training etc. through state agencies; training of bank officials; promotional incentive to banks for publicity including advertisements, posters, brochures etc.; and organization of workshops, business meets and training programmes by the Technical Back-up Units of the Ministry. The Ministry is also implementing a special demonstration scheme for supporting the installation of solar water heating systems in the North-Eastern States, islands and Jammu & Kashmir.